

Personal/Small Group Sermon Study

Week of March 26, 2023 A.D.

All I Know Is I'm Not Home Yet. This Is Not Where I Belong.

In this lesson, we will read about the physical return of Jesus to planet Earth. When Christ returns, Satan will be bound and imprisoned for 1,000 years during which Jesus will rule this planet from His throne in Jerusalem as the one and only King of kings and Lord of lords.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read Revelation 19:11-16

1. Is it proper for the church of Christ to refer to our Savior as "gentle Jesus who is meek and mild"? Was Jesus gentle, meek, and mild at His first coming to earth? Will Jesus be gentle, meek, and mild at His second coming? (Consider Psalm 2:7-9)

Read Luke 12:49-53

2. Has Jesus "brought fire on the earth"? Has Jesus experienced the "baptism" which He was required "to undergo"? If so, how, when, and what did that baptism accomplish?
3. Does Jesus want His church to be committed primarily to a mission of (a) peace or (b) division? Has the American church embraced or rejected (a) the mission which Jesus has given to His church and (b) the purpose for which Jesus suffered, bled, and died?

Read Romans 6:8-14

4. Are Christians literally and irrevocably "dead to sin"? If you are a Christian, how do you (a) "count yourself dead to sin" and (b) count yourself "alive to God in Christ Jesus"? Will a pagan always experience a change in behavior when he becomes a Christian?
5. Can a Christian be obedient to the commands of these verses without maintaining a serious commitment to (a) study the Bible? (b) obey the teachings of the Bible and the Holy Spirit? (c) following Christ? and/or (d) serving others within the church?

Now refer back to Revelation 19:11-16

6. Read verse 11. Has Jesus empowered, equipped, and commanded the church to display His character and His nature on earth? Please evaluate and give a report card to the American church on its (a) faithfulness to Christ and (b) commitment to discerning, speaking, and following the truth in all areas of life.

7. Refer to verses 12 and 13. Are these verses to be interpreted (a) literally? or (b) figuratively? What does your answer to the previous question reveal about (a) your faith in God? (b) your commitment to Christ and to His mission on earth? (c) your love for the "things of the flesh"? and (d) your willingness to live a life of obedience to the teachings of the Bible?

8. Refer to Revelation 19:6-8, 14. Do you expect yourself to be among "the armies of heaven" which are riding behind Christ when He makes His return to earth? How do your daily thoughts, actions, and spoken words acknowledge that Jesus is the one and only "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS"?

9. Does the American church worship, serve, and obey (a) the God of the Bible? or (b) a god of the church's own creation and imagination?

Read Revelation 19:17-18

10. Are these verses to be taken literally or figuratively? What thoughts and emotions run through your mind when you read these verses? According to the Holy Scriptures, why does God keep you alive on planet earth after you become a Christian?

Read Revelation 19:19-21

11. Refer to verse 19. Is America currently at "war against the rider on the horse"? Where does the current generation appear to exist on God's prophetic time clock? Where should the American church be committing the majority of its time, teaching, energy, and resources currently and into the future?

12. Refer to verses 20-21. Refer also to Revelation 13:11, 16-17. What current events, if any, indicate that (a) the "mark of the beast" could be offered in the not-too-distant future and (b) the vast majority of the American population will receive "the mark of the beast"? What should the American church be doing in response to your answers to these questions?

Consider: "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming." 2 Peter 3:10-12. You think about that! Amen.